The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Pride Room of the Administration Building by President Alan Vezzi with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jennifer Iriti, Bill Newcomer, Alex Czaplicki, Len Fornella, Paul Brinsky, Alan Vezzi

Absent: Teresa Burroughs, Todd Petrillo, Lena Hannah

Others: John Vogel, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead; Student Representative Ryan McGowan; Director of Finance Brian Tony; Assistant Director of Finance Maria Brewer Aguilar; Network Systems Administrator Gene Manzini; Assistant Systems Administrator Rob Warfield; Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Nanci Sullivan; High School Associate Principal Aaron Skrbin; Elementary Principal Laurie Gray; Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens; Staff Training Specialist Kim Sahady; Teachers David Taylor, Tyler Geist, and Karley Rossi; Cassandra Renninger, Eckles Architecture; David Esposito, Eckles Architecture; Brooke Ley, Clayton Fauthorp. Mike Belcher, Mark Babatunde, Barry Balaski, Eishan Ashwat, Sue Mikesell, Rick Chaussard, Pete Rxxxxxx, Maria Voms Stein, Kathleen Refosco, Michele Ley, Mark Kurchena, Terry Greg, Nathan Onda, James Walker, Alex Felser, and Cynthia Geisler, Superintendent’s Assistant/Board Secretary

Dr. Rondinelli announced the Band Festival will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2015.

Dr. Rondinelli announced additional information regarding affiliate marketing will be presented at the February 24, 2015 meeting.

Steve Niedenberger, Senior Auditor from the firm Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood, provided the Board with the Audit Report for the period ending June 2014. He reviewed some of the financial highlights of the audit and concluded the District had an unqualified clean opinion. He also informed the Board the single audit of the Federal Programs had no findings, which was also a clean audit, and concluded that the Food Service Department had a decrease in their net position. Mr. Niedenberger thanked the Business Office for their cooperation with the audit.

The iPad Implementation Team along with teachers Tyler Geist and David Taylor provided the Board with additional information on the iPads for grades 1 and 2. Areas discussed included:

♦ Cost savings on copies
♦ Library savings
♦ Differentiated instructional model
♦ Better communication with parents
♦ Using APPs, including Edmodo and Vittle

High School students Brooke Ley, Mark Babatunde, and Eishan Ashwat talked to the Board about providing students in grades 1 and 2 with iPads. They commented it is exciting because they didn’t grow up using iPads in second grade and by starting at such an early age it gives girls the opportunity to experience technology where as at an older age they may have felt it was something they weren’t
interested in or couldn’t do. They talked about how the high school uses different teaching platforms and are using new technology resources outside the classrooms. The iPads will help students understand the lessons and have a deeper interaction with teachers. They concluded the introduction of new technology in the classroom will open the floodgates for innovation, creativity and interaction with students.

Dr. Loughead explained the formal Future Ready Teaching and Learning Plan; the goals include:

- Transforming and using technology to drive continuous academic improvement
- Personalize digital learning by customizing what students learn and see without other students knowing
- Flip classrooms within a classroom bringing students together to interact more and increases social learning
- Accelerated learning, customize lessons for students who are learning at a faster pace by using enrichment resources and in some cases online courses
- Same devices allow a level playing field for all students using a common rubric
- Increased content access; quality content that is free, ex. The Library of Congress
- Rollout of the HP Revolves, a laptop tablet combination device, for the Middle and Intermediate schools for the 15-16 school year
- Move existing quality devices to the high school in addition to BYOD, also encourage students to bring in more devices

The Board inquired if high school students wanted to purchase the Revolve would they be able to take advantage of the purchase price, Clayton Fauthrop and Mike Belcher from HP confirmed they would get the same price. Dr. Rondinelli informed the Board the following school districts are also using the Revolves; Grove City, Chartiers Valley, and Quakertown School District a Project Red Designated district. Dr. Loughead added the short term saving forecasts of printing, textbook purchases, and electric utility savings; and long term saving costs of professional development, digitize administrative forms and parental sign-off forms, and developing our own online courses.

Mike Belcher, Education Strategist for HP in the Americas, and Clayton Fauthrop, HP Representative introduced themselves to the Board and talked about the program of 1-1; the need to move to a digital environment; preparing students for the work force; and the services HP provides.

Jamie Doyle, PFM presented the Board with refinancing options for General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2005 and the Series 2010 Bond. She informed the Board if they vote on the motions tonight the Series A of 2005 Bond settlement could be at the end of April or later and the Series 2010 Bond settlement could be at the end of August or later. The refinancing could result in a combined estimated savings of approximately $327,000. The Board agreed to revisit this at the end of the agenda.

Cassandra Renninger and Dave Esposito, Eckles Architecture provided the Board with updated information regarding the High School construction project. Areas discussed included:

- Upcoming design meeting on Feb 23 for the library/media center and childcare area
- March – compare the costs of the project to the desires of the project
- Sidewalk and roadway reconfiguration required
- Guidance/attendance area, modifications and additional office space needed
- Tech Ed/Fab Lab conceptual design options
- Conceptual food court and cashier modification options
- Next steps: schedule a meeting within the week with Eckles and PJ Dick to review budget amount for project

Brian Tony reminded the Board the 2015-2016 Proposed Preliminary Budget has been on display in the Administration Building since January 27, 2015 for the required 20 days prior to the Board approving the 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget, which the Board is required to vote on this evening, per the PDE Budget Timeline. The following 2015-2016 proposed preliminary budgets were presented to the Board:

- Facilities – Gene Manzini
Pupil Personnel – Dr. Nanci Sullivan

Brian Tony added the Business Office will submit the approved 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget to the PDE by the end of the week and publish a notice of the District’s intent to apply for exceptions to PDE. He presented to the Board three scenarios for approval:

- No tax increase – 25.2126 mills
- To the index – a 2.5% increase or .6303 millage increase to 25.8429 mills
- To the index and the PSERS exception - .9057 millage increase to 26.1183 mills

The Business Office recommendation is for the Board to approve the budget with the index and exceptions. Dr. Rondinelli added health care costs are estimated be 2.75% which will reduce the preliminary budget.

Minutes

The Board considered approval of Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

- Committee Meeting of the Board – Tuesday, January 20, 2015
- Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 27, 2015

Financial Reports

The Financial Reports were provided to the Board for review and will be included on the Agenda for approval at the Regular Meeting.

Superintendent’s Monthly Report – Dr. Bille P. Rondinelli

Dr. Rondinelli informed the Board that information regarding the iPad Rollout is being shared with Avonworth School District, our mentee school for the Governor’s Expanding Excellence Grant. She announced the following upcoming events.

- February 26 – Elementary School Family Reading Night
- February 18 – Kindergarten Parent Meeting
- March 5, 6, 7 – Guys & Dolls, Jr.
- March 20, 21, 22 – Fiddler on the Roof
- February 21 – Evening of Jazz event in the High School Theatre
- February 21 – the WPIAL Individual Tournament also at the High School
- Boys Basketball playing tonight, Girls Basketball playing tomorrow evening and Swimming and Diving championships coming up

She added the Intermediate School’s Father/Daughter Snowball dance was a huge success, the Middle School received a $2,500 grant from the Sprout Fund, a link on the website for the PAWS Partners for Healthy Living video, and the Circle of Friends Mardi Gras dance was also a huge success.

Business Office

Czaplicki seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval to adopt the Preliminary Budget for the 2015-2016 school year as required by Act 1 of 2006. Per PDE requirements, the Board MUST adopt a Preliminary Budget by February 18, 2015. The Preliminary Budget revenue is $47,350,552.00 and expenses total $49,710,128.00, creating a budget variance of $2,359,576.00. This Preliminary Budget increases revenue by the index of 2.5% (0.6303 = $760,604), and Referendum Exception for PSERS of $332,334 (currently 0.2754 mills). We will also continue to revise the 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget over the next several months as additional information becomes available. There are several steps that remain in the process: A Proposed Final 2015-2016 Budget will be voted on in May 2015, and a Final 2015-2016 Budget will be voted on in June 2015.
And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for the Board to grant authorization to apply to The Pennsylvania Department of Education for approval of the following referendum exceptions for the 2015-2016 budget process, in accordance with the provisions of Act 1 of 2006.

- Retirement Contributions (PSERS) $332,334 0.2754 mills

**SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS**

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – All Yes

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony, and Network Systems Administrator Gene Manzini for Board approval to adopt Resolution 15-03 Support of Continued Participation in AlleghenyCONNECT Regional Wide Area Network for the one-year period ending June 30, 2016. The Service Order Extension is for the increase of bandwidth from 50 mbps to 150 mbps, with the option to increase to 200 mbps, at a cost of $7.00 per mbps.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the 2013-2014 School District Audit as prepared by Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood.

3. The Board considered the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance Brian Tony for Board approval of the Parkway West proposed budgets for 2015-2016.

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<td>Parkway Vocational Technical Operating Budget</td>
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<td>Parkway West Building Rental Budget</td>
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South Fayette’s Share of the Budget

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<td>Parkway Vocational Technical Operating Budget</td>
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<td>Parkway West Building Rental Budget</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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This budget information is based on 19.6 ADM’s attending Parkway West.

4. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Nanci Sullivan for Board approval for the District to enter into a collaborative agreement with the NSH Human Services to provide the most appropriate continuum of care for individuals. This item is budgeted in the Special Education Budget.

5. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Director of Finance Brian Tony and Associate High School Principal Aaron Skrbin for Board approval to purchase Navigate Prepared Emergency Management software at a cost of $8,700, with an annual license fee of $2,000.00. Navigate Prepared software will serve to streamline the use of the Emergency Management Plan and provide a valuable resource for all staff within the school district and first responders. The cost will be covered within the 2014-2015 budget.

Mr. Skrbin explained this software will digitize the Emergency Response Plan and also provide a 360 view of all classrooms and any ancillary buildings.
6. The Board considered the approval for the Superintendent Dr. Bille Rondinelli and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead to attend the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools Spring meeting in Vancouver, Washington from Sunday, April 19 through Tuesday, April 21, 2015. This is in lieu of Dr. Rondinelli attending the AASA Conference and Dr. Loughead attending the SXSW Edu Conference. The cost will include travel, lodging, and meals.

**Personnel**

For Minute purposes, the Superintendent proudly announced that tenure has been earned by the following teacher who has been employed since August 2011 and has fulfilled all requirements as set forth in Pennsylvania School Code, Title 24, PS 11-1108.

- Christopher Mikan, Social Studies teacher

Personnel items were discussed in Executive Session.

**Education**

Dr. Rondinelli asked the Board to vote on the motion below this evening.

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens for Board approval to permit Ms. Owens, Ms. Melissa Unger, and Mr. Shad Wachter to attend the Sandbox Summit in Boston, Massachusetts from Sunday, March 22 through Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at a cost to include registration, travel, lodging, and meals. The cost is part of the 2014-2015 budget.

The Board agreed to revisit motion 1 at the end of the meeting.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens for Board approval to permit students Sam Cohen and Nick Wilke to attend the 2015 Workshop on the Impact of Pen and Touch Technology in Education (WIPTTE) conference at the Microsoft campus in Redmond, Washington from Monday, April 27, through Thursday, April 30, 2015, pending receipt of notification acceptance. They will be under the supervision of Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens, Mr. Shad Wachter, and Dr. Ananda Gunewardena, Professor of Computer Science at Princeton University. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The cost will include registration, travel, lodging, and meals and is part of the 2014-2015 budget.

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Scott Milburn for Board approval of the list of 2015 potential graduates, based on fulfilling all requirements for graduation.

4. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead and High School Principal Scott Milburn for Board approval to add Applied Learning Strategies as a new course in the high school for the 2015-2016 school year.

5. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Scott Milburn for Board approval to permit Mr. Brian Garlick and Ms. Maureen Pedzwater to accompany 28 students to Seven Springs Ski Resort from Wednesday, April 15, 2015 through Saturday, April 18, 2015, for the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association State Competition. Students would be responsible for making up all school work during their
absence. Appropriate adult to student ratios for supervision will be assured by the administration. The cost of the trip includes lodging, meals, and the conference registration fees.

6. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Middle School Principal Dave Deramo for Board approval to dispose of the attached list of language textbooks as per Board Policy 706.1. Book vendors will be contacted to see if there is any interest in purchasing the textbooks and/or they will be given to students who request a copy. If there is no interest from the book vendors/students, we will post the materials on eBay as appropriate prior to disposing.

7. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and High School Principal Scott Milburn for Board approval to open a new activity account for the High School chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD).

**Transportation**

There were no items discussed.

**Athletics**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and High School Principal Scott Milburn for Board approval for Lee Ann Jubas, Technology Assistant in the High School to serve as a female chaperone for the girls softball team on their trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina from Thursday, March 19, 2015 through Monday, March 23, 2015, which has been previously Board approved.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Girls Varsity Softball Coach Vic Iagnemma for Board approval to add a Middle School softball program beginning in the Spring of 2016.

3. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent, Athletic Director Mark Keener, and Head Boys Varsity Baseball Coach Ken Morgan for Board approval to add a Jr. High baseball program beginning in the Spring of 2016.

Coaching personnel were discussed in Executive Session.

**Construction**

There were no additional items discussed.

Dr. Rondinelli reminded the Board the number of attendees for the tour of CMU’s ETC needs to be confirmed.

**Miscellaneous**

1. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and Elementary School Principal Laurie Gray for Board approval of the revision to the Electronics, Toys and Collectables portion of the Elementary School Parent-Student Handbook effective for the 2014-2015 school year. The information will also be included in the Draft Technology Parent Welcome packet.

2. The Board considered the recommendation of the Superintendent and School District Solicitor for Board approval of the second reading of PSBA Board Policy 916 School Volunteers.
Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Vogel reported he has items for Executive Session.

Expenditures

Expenditures were submitted for Board review and will be placed on the agenda for approval at the Regular Board Meeting.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

Jim Walker, Gene Drive, discussed the need for a new wrestling room or modification of the current wrestling room. To make the Board aware the current wrestling program has approximately 30 varsity wrestlers and 25 Jr. High wrestlers who are participating in the program. Along with those, there are 50-55 youth wrestlers who also use that room. The room size is kind of tight, which limits the amount of practice time the coaches have with the kids altogether as a team. It also creates an environment for injuries, with the lack of space and confined quarters, boys are falling on each other, hitting into each other causing various injuries. Over the past couple of years, we’ve had boys that needed stitches in their head, my son came home yesterday with a big egg on his temple from one of the wrestlers falling on him with an elbow. Just looking for a room that might give the boys ample space to practice and give them the opportunity to practice without getting injured.

Maria Steel Voms Stein, Washington Pike, here in support of the South Fayette wrestling program that continues to flourish under our new coach and coaches. With most of the athletics, the different teams do have the training facilities necessary to grow in their sport. We have a lovely football field and a training facility under this building. The wrestling room has been in its current location and size since I was out of school in 1983, which at that time was a Jr./Sr. high school and graduating classes were anywhere from 50 to 100 students. There have only been a few modifications to that room, but no size increase. The wrestling program continues to grow in numbers and accolades and the Board should take into consideration the possibility of adding expenditure to improve the training facility.

Mark Kurchena, Harvest Court, speaking on behalf of wrestling, but the presentation with the computers is unbelievable, two thumbs up on the education side. I wrestled here and the wrestling room actually got smaller, the hallway between used to be part of the wrestling room. Wrestlers have to be careful in the back corner; there is a metal door to come in and out of the room. It is also harder to move the mat. My son has wrestled for 6 years now and this year has had ringworm 4 times. You can’t get the mat off the floor and you can’t maneuver it to clean it. It is a safety hazard having 30 young men in a 34 by 35 room. We’ve had students go to Columbia, Kent State and Clarion on scholarships in the last few years, all division I wrestling and I look it as a way to educate kids and get their education paid for. What other sport can a 106 lb., 113 lb., or 120 lb. kid can get a scholarship to pay for their education. Schools like Avella and McGuffy have rooms over twice our size; Canon Macmillan a dominant force in wrestling for years has a converted auxiliary gym two and a half times the size of our room, plus their middle school has a wrestling room and an auxiliary gym is now a wrestling room in the high school for wrestling season. Chartiers Valley has two wrestling rooms; one is about double the size of ours and the other about triple the size. We definitely need the room and we don’t want to see kids injured.

There were no additional comments.

Iriti seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Director of Technology and Innovation Aileen Owens for Board approval to permit Ms. Owens, Ms. Melissa Unger, and Mr. Shad Wachter to attend the Sandbox Summit in Boston, Massachusetts from Sunday, March 22 through Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at a cost to include registration, travel, lodging, and meals. The cost is part of the 2014-2015 budget.
SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Fornella on the motion for the Board of School Directors of the South Fayette Township School District (the “School District”) to authorize the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, as Bond Counsel, and the local Solicitor in conjunction with the issuance of the General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2015, for the purpose of currently refunding the School District’s General Obligation Bonds, Series A of 2005 via a parallel track approach between a Bank Loan RFP and a Bond issue with a recommendation to utilize the approach that produces the best economic benefit to the District with a minimum net savings target of $105,000, (2%).

And on the recommendation for the Board of School Directors of the South Fayette Township School District (the “School District”) to authorize the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, as Bond Counsel, and the local Solicitor in conjunction with issuance of the General Obligation Bonds, Series B & C of 2015, for the purposes of currently refunding the School District’s General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2010 and capital improvement to the District respectively.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS

There were no comments at this time.

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Brinsky to suspend the meeting at 10:02 PM and enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel and/or legal issues.

President Vezzi announced there may be votes taken after Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Executive Session convened at 10:12 PM.

Newcomer seconded Iriti to exit Executive Session at 10:57 PM and return to the committee meeting.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Fornella seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to accept the resignation of Bernadette Cardillo, custodian in the High School effective retroactive to February 13, 2015.

And on the recommendation of the Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire Ryan Kinzler as a Long Term Substitute Math teacher in the High School at the rate of $115.00 per day, effective February 18, 2015 through the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

Roll Call – All Yes

Czaplicki seconded Iriti to adjourn the meeting at 10:58 PM.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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Cynthia Geisler, Board Secretary